

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 1745

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, TPHY, CH
SUBJECT: FURTHER OBSERVATIONS ON EARTHQUAKE HEROES CONFERENCE

REF: HONG KONG 10349, PEKING 1730

1. FOLLOWING ARE SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES ON THE BIG MEETING IN PEKING
SEPTEMBER 1 OF ANTI-QUAKE AND RELIEF WORKERS AND THE NATIONAL
LEADERSHIP (REFTELS).

2. IMAGE OF HUA KUO-FENG AS FOREMOST OF CHINA'S ACTIVE LEADERS
WAS CAREFULLY DEVELOPED IN THE PEKING PRESS COVERAGE SEPTEMBER 2
(PAPERS WERE ABOUT SEVEN HOURS LATE, BY THE WAY) AND EVEN MORE SO
IN A 30-MINUTE FILM SHOWN ON PEKING TELEVISION EVENING SEPTEMBER 2.
FILM INCLUDES APPROXIMATELY FIVE MINUTES OF HUA READING HIS
SPEECH--HE IS THE ONLY SPEAKER WHOSE VOICE MAKES IT ONTO THE
SOUND TRACK.

3. MAO'S PRESENCE IN PEKING IS UNDERLINED IN THE NANA REPORT
OF THE MEETING AND IN THE MEETING'S LETTER TO HIM--BOTH
EXPRESSING THE DELEGATES' JOY AT BEING IN PEKING WHERE THE
CHAIRMAN IS (OR, IN THE LITERAL MEANING OF THE CHINESE, AT
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HIS SIDE). THE FILM BRIEFLY RECORDS SOME BITS OF SCENE-

STEALING BY A SEEMINGLY EBULLIENT MADAME MAO (IN THE WALKAROUND BY THE LEADERS AS THEY AND THE CROWD APPLAUD EACH OTHER).

4. HUA'S INSTRUCTIONS ON THE IDEOLOGICAL CAMPAIGN (HONG KONG REFTTEL) WERE REPEATED ALMOST WORD FOR WORD BY HOPEI PARTY FIRST SECRETARY LIU TZU-HOU IN HIS SPEECH AT THE CONFERENCE. THUS THE CALLS FOR COMBINING CRITICISM OF TENG WITH PRACTICAL WORK AND FOR PROMOTING REVOLUTIONARY UNITY, WHICH HUA SOURCED TO THE PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE HEADED BY CHAIRMAN MAO, APPEAR TO BE GUIDELINES ALREADY SENT DOWN TO LOWER LEVEL UNITS.

5. THE SEPTEMBER 2 PEOPLE'S DAILY EDITORIAL ISSUED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CONFERENCE WAS A FAIRLY FAITHFUL REFLECTION OF HUA'S

SPEECH, STRESSING THE THEMES OF HEROISM, HARD WORK, AND UNITY. THE NCNA ENGLISH SUMMARY OF THE EDITORIAL, HOWEVER, LEFT OUT ONE OF ITS MORE BITING PHRASES: A CALL TO SUPPRESS COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES AND "THOSE WHO FIGHT, SMASH, AND LOOT." CURIOUSLY, THE ENGLISH VERSION ALSO DROPS THE ORIGINAL'S LINKING OF TENG WITH THE STILL-CRITICIZED PHILOSOPHY OF SERVILITY TO THINGS FOREIGN.
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